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Bowling Green State University

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THE BG NEWS

ESTABLISHED 1920

A daily independent student press serving the campus and surrounding community

Wednesday

December 9, 2009

Volume 104, Issue 72

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CAMPUS

Three of 20 dangerous cities in Ohio

The results are in, and three cities in Ohio rank among the most dangerous in the nation | **Page 3**

A voice given to history and its sides

Kyle Schmidlin points out there are indeed many sides to each story, and the History channel provides these other viewpoints | **Page 4**

Bah, humbug to winter and Christmas

Guest columnist Vince Driver declares his dislike toward the upcoming season and holiday as Christmas approaches | **Page 4**

FORUM

Coach hopes for better trip

Football coach Dave Clawson hopes for better luck in the Humanitarian Bowl than his previous, disaster-fraught trip to Idaho in 1993 | **Page 6**

SPORTS

Basketball win boosts morale

The women's basketball team pulled off a major win over Vanderbilt on the road, bringing a renewed confidence to the team | **Page 6**



What do you do instead of studying?



DAN ENGLISH
Junior, Computer Science

"Sit on the toilet."
| **Page 4**

PEOPLE ON THE STREET

Stay afloat at the end of the semester with final exam study tips

With finals approaching in less than a week, students might be wondering how they can get the most out of their study habits.

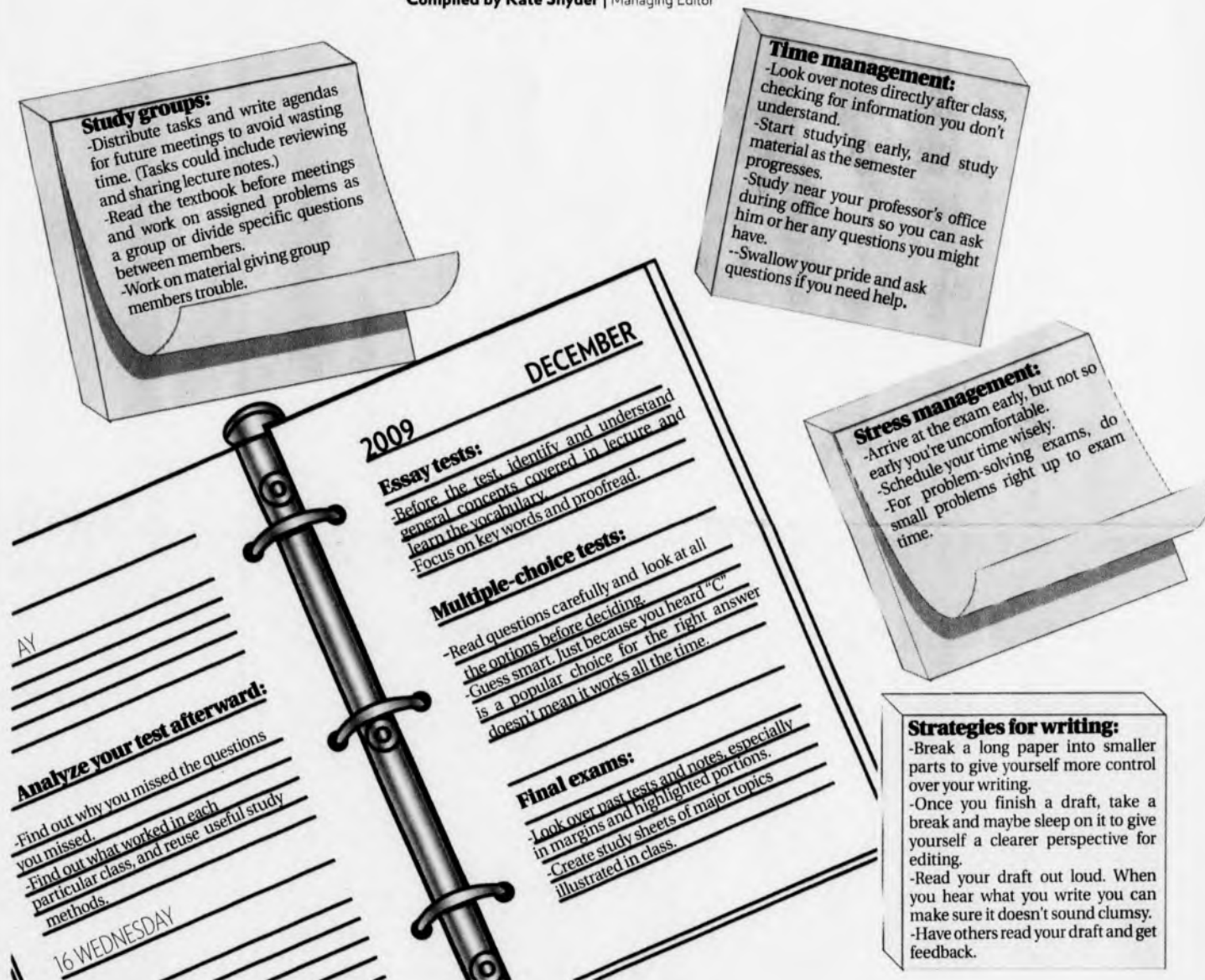
The Study Skills Center, Writing Center and Math and Statistics Tutoring Center located in Moseley Hall provide study tips and tutoring services for students.

Mary Paler, a graduate student who tutors in the Math and Statistics Center, said in addition to following their own study tips, students can always come to the different centers for extra help.

"Sometimes people forget what happened at the start of the semester," Paler said. "The people here can help them and guide them."

Below are some study tips compiled from pamphlets and brochures written by the Study Skills Center and Writing Center.

Compiled by Kate Snyder | Managing Editor



Foundation works to attract businesses to Bowling Green

By Anthony Phillips
Reporter

Even though there are only two employees in the Bowling Green Community Development Foundation, they both work hard to attract new businesses and keep them in the city.

Sue Clark, executive director for the foundation, said titles do not mean much when there are only two people in an entire organization.

She said she and Sue Clanton, the other employee, have their work cut out for them.

Clark said the foundation has a board of members, including the University, Wood County Hospital, Bowling Green City Schools and several other business with factories in Bowling Green. The board provides a forum for its members to communicate about jobs, internships and other business-related issues.

The foundation is a private-public not-for-profit organization, which means they work

See CITY | **Page 2**

HITTING THE BOOKS



ALAIMA BUZAS | THE BG NEWS

CRUNCH TIME: Senior Michelle Bologna and Graduate student Will Smith take a quick break from studying in the Union to watch a music video. Bologna worked on editing her senior thesis, while Smith typed a 15 page paper.

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NATION BRIEFS

BG NEWS WIRE SOURCES

Recount in Atlanta mayor's race set for today

ATLANTA (AP) — Ballots cast in a tight Atlanta runoff race for mayor will be recounted at the request of the runner-up, who lost by just over 700 votes.

Election officials for Fulton County say they will tally the votes again today from the nonpartisan runoff last week to replace outgoing two-term Mayor Shirley Franklin.

Former state Sen. Kasim Reed edged out city councilwoman Mary Norwood, who had hoped to be Atlanta's first white mayor in a generation. The gap of 715 votes was less than one percent of the total, meaning under Georgia law the runner-up could petition for a recount.

Elections chief Barry Garner confirmed receipt of Norwood's request and said the recount is expected to take four to five hours.

Pa. police arrest Amish man in buggy for DUI

LANCASTER, Pa. (AP) — Police in central Pennsylvania arrested an Amish man on drunk driving charges over the weekend after he was found asleep in his moving buggy. Police said a 22-year-old man was slumped over and asleep in a slow-moving buggy on Sunday night.

An off-duty officer from nearby reported seeing the horse pulling the buggy at a walking pace as it straddled the center line.

Police said a breathalyzer test showed the man's blood-alcohol content was 0.18, more than twice the 0.08 legal limit for drivers.

Trial set for man charged with working for Iraq

DETROIT (AP) — A judge has set an Aug. 2 trial for a Detroit-area man charged with conspiring to act as an unregistered agent of Iraq and illegally obtaining 2 million barrels of oil.

Muthanna Al-Hanooti was indicted nearly two years ago. The U.S. Justice Department accuses him of illegally working with the former regime of Saddam Hussein from 1999 through 2003.

Al-Hanooti is well known in the Detroit area's Arab-American community. He was public relations director for a charity called Life for Relief and Development and helped organize a trip to Iraq for three congressmen in 2002.

A judge briefly closed a hearing Monday in federal court in Detroit to discuss national security issues with lawyers. Al-Hanooti says he's optimistic he'll beat the charges.

Christmas Story: Boise boy licks pole, gets stuck

BOISE, Idaho (AP) — It's become an annual winter tale: A young boy gets his tongue stuck to a metal pole, perhaps as the result of a dare.

This year, the scene straight out of the movie "A Christmas Story" unfolded Tuesday morning in Boise with a boy of about 10.

Boise firefighters used a glass of warm water to free the unidentified boy from the metal fence pole.

Fire Capt. Bill Tinsley says the boy's tongue was bleeding a little, but he was OK and allowed to continue walking to school. Firefighters estimate the boy was 10 years old.

Rescue workers responded after a woman driving by saw the boy and called 911.

Last year, the unlucky boy was a 10-year-old from Hammond, Ind.; especially apt, since the 1983 movie is set in a fictional city based on Hammond.

NJ woman admits rape lie that sent man to prison

NEW YORK (AP) — A New Jersey woman whose false story about a gang rape sent an innocent man to prison has pleaded guilty to perjury.

Biurny Peguero (BEE'-ur-nee pay-GEHR'-oh) told police she was kidnapped and raped at knifepoint in 2005 by three men, including William McCaffrey.

McCaffrey was convicted and sentenced to 20 years in prison. He served three years before Peguero admitted this spring she had lied. New tests showed DNA from a bite on her arm wasn't from McCaffrey, and he was released in August.

Peguero pleaded guilty Monday in state Supreme Court in Manhattan. The married mother of two from Union City, N.J., faces a maximum seven years in prison when she's sentenced in February.

She told authorities she lied because her friends weren't sympathetic after her encounter with men who had frightened but not attacked her.

Utah man gets Purple Heart 42 years late

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — A Vietnam veteran has received a Purple Heart, more than four decades late.

Allen Malo was wounded in November 1967 after his fuel truck hit a land mine. The resident of Farmington, Utah, didn't think much about not getting a Purple Heart. But his son, Jeff Malo, a longtime member of the Utah National Guard, wanted the oversight rectified.

On Monday, Allen Malo received the medal at the Utah State Capitol rotunda. He says he's proud of the honor, but also of his son and family for pursuing it on his behalf.

BLOTTER

MONDAY, DEC. 7

3:10 P.M.

Complainant reported unknown subject(s) entered her garage and stole a few items within the 1015th block of Pearl St.

7:46 P.M.

Trokina Williams, 35, of Bowling Green was arrested for an active warrant within the 200th block of Napoleon Road.

ONLINE: Go to bgviews.com for the complete blotter list.

CORRECTION POLICY

We want to correct all factual errors. If you think an error has been made, call The BG News at 419-372-6966.

CITY

From Page 1

with, but are not owned by, the government. However, they do receive public funding and membership dues.

Clark said a benefit for members in the foundation is that it creates a platform for communication and networking.

"The contractors see an advantage because they may get a leg up on a contract, the real estate is the same way," Clark said. "If they know a company is coming to town, they want to know how they can sell houses and sell property to them."

Tim Smith, an assistant in economic development at the University, said the University sees a benefit because it helps keep the community strong economically.

Smith said with new businesses, the University has a

chance to open up more internships with local factories.

Clark said the main goal of the foundation is to diversify how money comes into the city. She said the reason for this is because in the 1980s the state froze government funding for colleges.

Clark said after the freeze, the mayor realized the city had a flat budget tied to the University, so he gathered city leaders to discuss the issue. She said a decision was made to create a diverse economic base so the city's economy would be less dependent on the University.

At that time, Clark said business at the meeting pledged \$10,000 over three years toward the foundation and its goal of diversifying the city's revenue.

Even though University students may not see them, Bowling Green has several companies dealing in plastic manufacturing, including

Rexam, which makes lids, and Southeastern Container, which makes Coca-Cola bottles.

Clark said there are several reasons companies pick Bowling Green to build their manufacturing plants.

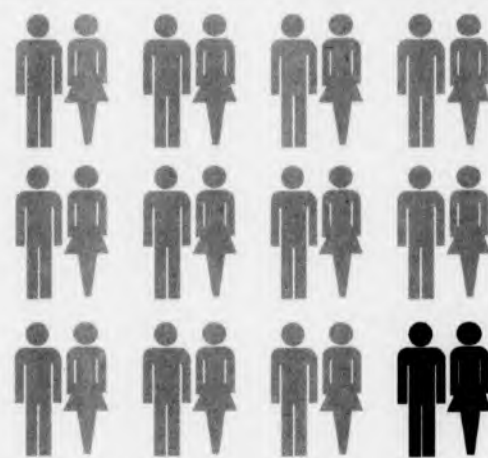
One is location. Bowling Green is near Cleveland, Detroit, Cincinnati, Chicago and Canada. Bowling Green also sits next to I-75, which is a common route for semi-trucks.

Clark said Bowling Green's flat land and factory parks are yet another draw.

"All of our parks have all of the utilities in place," Clark said. "We do not have to extend the utilities. We have very marketable sites that are shovel-ready really."

Downtown BG Director Barb Ruland said the foundations has a lot of responsibilities.

"They keep the wheels turning, and in this economy, it is not an easy go," she said.



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Suspected Chicago terrorist to appear in court

CHICAGO (AP) — A Chicago man charged with helping to plan the terrorist attacks in the Indian city of Mumbai that left 166 dead will appear in court today to respond to the charges, federal prosecutors said yesterday.

David Coleman Headley, 49, is due to appear before U.S. District Judge Harry Levinweber for arraignment at 10:45 a.m.

Headley was charged Monday with conducting surveillance on locations around Mumbai that later became the targets of bloody attacks blamed on members of the Pakistan-based group Lashkar-e-Taiba.

The group, whose name means Army of the Pure, is an outgrowth of decades of friction between Pakistan and India over the disputed territory of

Kashmir. Lashkar-e-Taiba has been outlawed in Pakistan and designated by the United States as a foreign terrorist organization.

Headley, an American of Pakistani descent, was arrested in Chicago in October and was charged with plotting to attack the Jyllands Posten newspaper in Denmark. The newspaper had published 12 cartoons depicting the Prophet Muhammad in 2005 that set off protests in much of the Muslim

world.

Unlike his co-defendant in that case, Chicago businessman Tahawwur Rana, Headley has not yet appeared in court.

Rana's attorney, Patrick Blegen, has been attempting to get his client freed on bond. He says Rana appears to be an honest businessman who was duped by Headley.

Headley's attorneys, John Theis and Robert Seeder, have refused to comment on the charges.

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Tips for Surviving Exam Week (stress is a cause of overspending)

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3. Go to the gym and exercise
4. Study with a group

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Dayton, Cincinnati, Cleveland rank in top 20 most dangerous cities

The three cities placed 8th, 19th and 20th on the list of 393 cities evaluated on six crime categories, which included murder, rape and robbery

By Sara Dorn,
Flyer News (University of
Dayton)
The College News Network

CQ Press's 2009-2010 City Crime rankings were released in Nov. and included Dayton, Cincinnati and Cleveland in the top 20 most dangerous cities in the United States.

Out of 393 cities, Cleveland came in 8th, Cincinnati 19th and Dayton 20th. The findings are based on six crime cat-

egories: murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary and motor vehicle theft. The city of Dayton's high crime level sometimes carries over to the University of Dayton, and often times is the main reason for violence and mischief on campus.

"About 63 percent of our arrests last year were not students," Police Chief Bruce Burt said. "We have individuals from the Dayton area that come to our campus who are not welcome."

Last year's incident in Garden

Apartments on Stewart Street where a student was held at gunpoint found Dayton residents, who were not affiliated with UD, guilty. This is a first-hand example of why Dayton is dangerous and the types of danger residents face: guns.

"The majority of the crime in Dayton is gun violence resulting primarily from the drug trade," Burt said.

Although there have been crimes on campus in the past and Dayton is voted as being the 20th most dangerous city

in the United States, most students feel safe on campus. This includes those who have seen the potential dangers by leaving campus and heading into the city's streets, but usually these students prefer to stay on campus for safety issues after their experiences.

"I've stumbled through the streets of Dayton alone at night and never felt in danger," said sophomore J.T. Allen, a resident of Dayton's suburb, Oakwood. "But I wouldn't want to do it again."

Students from the other cities on the CQ Press ranking list see Dayton as a haven of safety compared to their hometowns. Although Cincinnati and Dayton are close in rank, sophomore Mike Taulbee, a Cincinnati resident, believes his hometown is much more dangerous.

"Compared to Cincinnati, Dayton's much safer," Taulbee said. "I've driven through Over the Rhine (a neighborhood in Cincinnati notorious for daily violence) and it's not somewhere I want to be."

For many students, worrying about daily violence on UD's campus, although located in a dangerous city, is not a problem. By staying on UD's campus and not venturing far into Dayton's streets unaccompanied, students can, for the most part, be assured a safe experience free of crime, violence or being held at gunpoint.

"I always feel safe at UD," sophomore Caroline Roberto said. "I've never seen anything bad happen and nothing has happened to me."

Web site allows students to share lecture notes to develop study skills

By Randiah Green,
Independent Collegian
(University of Toledo)
The College News Network

Students can now help each other develop better studying and note taking methods by sharing their lecture notes through a social networking Web site called Grade Guru.

Grade Guru allows students to upload their notes for specific university classes, including those at the University of Toledo, to share with other students in their class or other students who want to learn better note taking skills.

"Grade Guru is essentially a study note-sharing Web site for college students and the idea is that students who have successful study methods can share their notes with their peers to give them ideas for better study methods," said Emily Sawtel, founder of Grade Guru and director of new business ventures at McGraw-Hill Higher Education.

When students register for the Web site to contribute their notes, they indicate which university they are from, which courses they are taking that they wish to share their notes for and the name of the professor who teaches the course.

Each university who has students registered for Grade Guru has their own home page where students can find and post notes for the classes offered at their school.

"One of the great things about Grade Guru is that it facilitates a sense of community among students," said Allie Nikitas, a junior majoring in finance at Miami University (Ohio) and an ambassador for Grade Guru at MU. "The notes

posted are really helpful when you're studying and you suddenly realize that you need further clarification on a certain topic. All you have to do is search for notes by topic, specific course, or other search criteria."

Sawtel said the Web site also helps students who post their notes improve their note taking skills.

"A lot of students who contribute say [if] they know other people are going to be using their notes they are more organized in putting their notes together. It gives students a reason to make their notes more clear," she said. "Students who haven't really worked out what the best study methods that work are, Grade Guru can show you lots of different ways to study and put their notes together."

The Web site also allows users to provide feedback on other users' notes, Sawtel said, which is a constructive way of letting students know what they could do to make their notes more effective.

Sawtel said the Web site is particularly helpful to freshmen students who may have done well in high school but do not know how to study for college level courses.

Though Sawtel said the Web site is mostly beneficial to freshmen students, Nikitas said it can be helpful to both underclassmen and upperclassmen.

"Underclassmen who are developing new study habits are able to integrate Grade Guru into their studying routine from the beginning. Having access to quality notes helps them to understand classroom material and develop a better understanding of the benefits of taking quality notes," she

"Grade Guru is essentially a note-sharing Web site for college students."

Emily Sawtel | Founder

said. "Upperclassmen tend to have lots of notes from previous semesters that they can upload. Not only do these notes help other students, but they also earn rewards for the contributor."

The rewards students can receive range from gift cards for Starbucks, iTunes or even cash.

"As students contribute notes to the site they can earn points. The more people who use the people's notes they receive points and can use them for several different things. They can also cash their points in for cash and we pay them through [PayPal.com], or they can use them to contribute to a charity, or plant a tree," Sawtel said.

Sawtel said there is no specific way Grade Guru advertises to students, but they have gained users through students passing on knowledge of the Web site to each other. Some professors also register to have their students share notes through the Web site, according to Sawtel.

Grade Guru has students sharing their notes from around 350 universities in the country and over 300 universities in the United Kingdom.

The idea for Grade Guru, Sawtel said, came from students themselves.

"We did a lot of research before creating the Web site into student study habits and what students think work and several things were clear. One of the big ones was that students already study in groups," she said.

Miami takes professor evaluations online

Switch to online evaluations makes life easier for students and faculty alike

By Bryan Sheriff,
Miami Hurricane
(University of Miami)
The College News Network

Compared to sorting through piles of papers feet high, the new online course evaluation system has made life much easier for the members of the University of Miami Testing Center.

With every school at the University of Miami now participating to some capacity, the testing center is looking forward to the latest series of student responses using the online system established only three years ago.

"Before the change, we were just using the scannable forms of paper-based evaluation, the latest of which was used for some 20 odd years," said David Wiles, executive director of the Testing Center.

After instituting a pilot program three years ago, different schools elected to begin using the new online version at various times. Among the first to begin using the system were the School of Nursing and Frost

School of Music.

"There really were stacks of paper all over the place," said Mary Sapp, assistant vice president of Planning and Institutional Research.

"Now the effort is mostly dealing with making sure everything is set up in advance online."

Several immediate benefits to making the move online have already proved helpful to the Testing Center. There has been increased customization of the surveys, allowing for more representative information that schools can use to better their programs. In addition, it allows students the latitude of deciding when to complete the survey.

"We have found that students are volunteering more information and more complete information about the course than they were before," Wiles said.

Initially, the new online system did see a decrease in response rates, typically about a 15 percent drop. However, in order to help encourage participation last spring, students who filled out course evaluations

were able to see their grades earlier. Since then, response rates have climbed back up to similar levels of what schools saw before the move online.

Besides making it easier for both students and faculty, the switch to the online version has helped save the school an exorbitant amount of money and paper. The school typically sorted through over 40,000 surveys in paper form, not including the open-ended comments or any other documents.

These evaluations are taken seriously by faculty and are often used as a basis for both promotion and tenure for faculty.

"We just want students to recognize that it's important enough to the University that the feedback is used in evaluating faculty members," Sapp said.

With increased awareness, the Testing Center hopes that more students will participate in completing their course evaluations and will act as though it is a meaningful exercise.

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PEOPLE ON THE STREET What do you do instead of studying?



"Facebook and Twitter."

AUBRI GREEN,
Sophomore,
Early Childhood Education



"Go to the bars."

DELAYNA HERNDON,
Freshman,
Undecided



"Call of Duty: Modern Warfare 2." It wastes my life away."

ANDY GIBSON,
Senior,
Sports Management



"Cheerleading."

MARIAH COMPTON,
Junior,
Psychology

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History Channel allows people to speak



KYLE SCHMIDLIN
FORUM EDITOR

On Sunday, the History Channel will air a documentary based on Howard Zinn's 1980 landmark book, "A People's History of the United States."

Zinn's book, as well as the History Channel special "The People Speak," are intended to tell history from the perspective of those who were not at the top, but rather those who worked to forge human events from the bottom. It is from here Zinn says democracy really comes.

Previews indicate the show consists pretty much exclusively of Zinn's narration and readings by well-known actors and musicians. Morgan Freeman reads Frederick Douglass, Matt Damon — prominently featured throughout — reads from "The Grapes of Wrath" and the "Declaration of Independence" and performances by Bob Dylan, Jackson Browne, Taj Mahal and others highlight protest anthems.

All this is fine; however, it isn't clear how much context will be given to each of the various speeches, writings, songs and poems. "A People's History" high-

lighted all these, but in between them was Zinn's own commentary on whatever social pressures the works might be in response to.

The nice thing about both the book and the documentary is the giving of a voice to those under society's boot, rather than those wearing it. So much of history is told solely from the perspective of its winners. Zinn attempts to highlight people whose voices are marginalized at best; more frequently ignored entirely.

In a Columbus Day-themed episode of "The Sopranos," Tony angrily responds to his son's telling him Zinn's book called Columbus a murderer by saying, "In this house, Columbus is a hero — end of story!" Columbus Day protests of 2009, here and elsewhere, indicate the shifting of public opinion, with high schools saying they are starting to teach a more multi-dimensional picture of the explorer. Viggo Mortensen will read from Bartolome de Las Casas' important account of Columbus' arrival in America, "The Devastation of the Indies," on the History Channel special.

Tony Soprano's attitude is not uncommon, and is shared by other characters throughout the episode. But he can hardly be blamed for his position — it is the way history has always been taught. Even as recently as my own elementary school days,

we sang "In 1492, Columbus sailed the ocean blue." There was adventure and promise in the way we sang the words — not enslavement and murder, the other side of the Columbus story.

Zinn's book has come under fire by other historians, and all sorts of accusations have been lodged: revisionist, radical and biased not the least among them. But Zinn doesn't really refute any of these claims. History is in need of radical revision, and Zinn's bias, though present, is minimal and always afforded to society's most downtrodden.

Ever since the Greek Thucydides wrote his seminal "History of the Peloponnesian War" around 430 B.C. (it was a life's work written over an unknown number of years) history has been written by and consisted of society's elite. Thucydides reported the story with a pro-Athenian bias, despite such revolutionary changes to history writing as excluding the gods and giving voice to the opposite side, probably during his exile from Athens.

Like Zinn's "A People's History," Thucydides' "History" is filled with speeches from the most prominent persons surrounding the events. Thucydides was probably the first historian to stick to what he perceived to be the facts, but he wasn't opposed to injecting his own wit and wisdom. Book 5 offers a famous quote

which is as true today as it was 2500 years ago: "... right, as the world goes, is only in question between equals in power; while the strong do what they can and the weak suffer what they must."

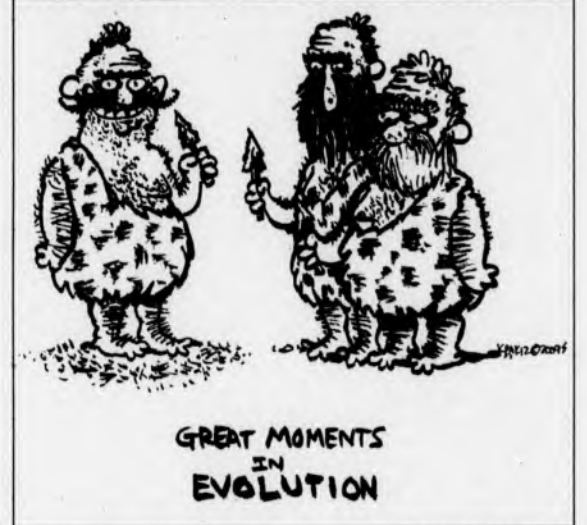
It is in the spirit of this quote that Zinn wrote "A People's History." He says of the book that his goal was to set about a "quiet revolution," and something like that seems to be happening.

It will be nice to see History, a station which has earned itself the nickname "The Hitler Channel" for its extensive World War II programming (never portrayed the way Zinn portrays it), finally covering the real people of history — farmers, factory workers, unionists, slaves and ex-slaves, women and suffragists — who have, from the time of Thucydides, been mostly absent in mainstream scholarly history.

Zinn's "quiet revolution" appears to be happening. Despite reservations, not unwarranted from anyone who has watched much History Channel, that some context might be missing, it still indicates an opening up of society. Without even realizing it, networks like History which have for so long maintained a status quo will finally let "The People Speak."

Respond to Kyle at
theneus@bgnews.com

THE LEGEND OF BONES MALONE



KEITH PAKIZ | THE BG NEWS

It's the most horrible time of the year

By Vince Driver
Guest Columnist

With the exception of spring, fall and summer, winter is by far the best season of all.

I mean, winter has so much going for it. The arctic winds leave campus more deserted and fun than normal. The shortened days make driving around any time past 4 p.m. an adventure as the legion of cars without headlights on assemble and force you to navigate telepathically. All the smokers retreat indoors, saving you the time, energy and money you would have wasted getting addicted to cigarettes on your own.

So I'm not the biggest fan of winter, but really, how could anyone enjoy it? The only sport that really matters is winding down. Snow loses its novelty after the first time it falls every year, especially when you realize the only fun things to do with it involve hills (which I hear legends of in the east).

I can't even justify binge drinking with the excuse that, the walking I do from party to party counts as exercise, because the binge drinking just stays in place now. The only possible upside to winter is the increase in opportunities to use puns involving cold and ice, a la Schwarzenegger as Mr. Freeze in "Batman and Robin."

All this complaining and I haven't even touched on the worst part of winter: the massive, tentacled beast Christmas has become.

I'm not talking about the presents; as an entitled, self-centered 20-something with little regard for the value of money and even less thought into the hollowness of corporate culture, I approve of that. I'm talking about the imagery,

the mythology and worst of all, the music.

If my hamfistedly-compiled list didn't already consist of enough terrible things to make me want to drain all my vital fluids in a most brutal fashion, Christmas music puts it over the top. As a grunt at a campus eatery which pipes that garbage seamlessly for an entire shift most days, I feel qualified to say Christmas music has no redeeming features whatsoever. In fact, the enjoyment of Christmas music seems to coincide with Communist leanings, according to my rigorous scientific studies.

But fear not, as that long-winded and somewhat deranged raving had a purpose! Engineers and mathematicians have been working hand in hand with musicians to make Christmas music that doesn't make me want to turn to hard drugs. After decades of work that cost billions in taxpayer money and the lives of our greatest scientific minds, a list was compiled.

Five holiday songs that don't suck are: "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen" by Los Straitjackets, "F*** Christmas" by Fear, "Gun for Christmas" by The Vandals, "15 Feet of Pure White Snow" by Nick Cave and the Bad Seeds, and the track that deflates this entire column, "It's Cliched to be Cynical at Christmas" by Half Man Half Biscuit.

Hopefully you will procure these songs through some legal method, but rest assured the ten minutes you spend listening to them will be more enjoyable than if you had been listening to standard holiday fare.

Respond to Vince at
theneus@bgnews.com

'Jersey Shore' entertaining, but stereotypical



MARISHA PIETROWSKI
COLUMNIST

I never quite understood the appeal of the MTV and VH1 reality show empires like "Rock of Love," "A Shot at Love," "The Hills" and their subsequent spin-offs. They seem to be utterly trashy and poorly acted ("reality" being a loose term). That is, until MTV's new reality show "Jersey Shore" showed me the light.

On this show, MTV takes eight 20-somethings who identify themselves as "guidos" or "guidettes" and places them in a beach house in Seaside Heights, N.J., providing a boardwalk filled with bars and a hot tub for endless late-night hookups (sounds like another MTV reality staple).

For those unfamiliar, the term guido refers to men, often Italian-American and residing in the New Jersey area, known for wearing muscle shirts, gelled hair, fake tans and Axe body spray, pumping their fists in the air. Guidettes are their female counterparts. There's so much Ed Hardy apparel featured, you'd

think Jon Gosselin was going to show up at any moment to complain about the paparazzi ruining his life. Clubbing and hot tubbing are essential to the lifestyle, and you can't start your day without a healthy dose of powdered protein supplements.

The guido and guidette labels are often considered stereotypical against Italian-Americans (understandably so, as the show does not present guidos in the most positive light), so it's important to note these housemates are self-identified as such, and that this is a small group of people who act and dress like this.

Normally I'd expect an MTV reality show to be ridiculously staged, featuring actors who are told to exaggerate and fill certain roles in the house (the promiscuous one, the anger management dropout, etc.), and that's what has kept me from enjoying them. What's fascinating about "Jersey Shore" is that the cast members' actions and attitudes seem completely believable and not at all forced.

When Angelina says, "That's how we know we're classy girls. We've been living in the house with these guys for two days and we haven't even done anything," you believe she feels that way,

much like you believe her proclamation "I'm a bartender, I do great things." She's proud of herself for not having sex with men she met just 48 hours ago.

Vinny comes down with a case of pinkeye after downing numerous Jagerbombs and doing God-knows-what in the club. Sammi, a.k.a. "Sweetheart," becomes involved in a "love" triangle with Ronnie and Mike (a.k.a. "the Situation," his pet name for his abs). Jennifer, a.k.a. JWovvv, contemplates cheating on her boyfriend with Paulie. All this while personifying bad guido stereotypes.

For these people, this behavior is a way of life they embody. I certainly don't understand the lifestyle and probably never will, but I will keep watching as it provides a tremendous amount of entertainment.

Angelina chides Nicole (a.k.a. "Snooki") for her choice of attire in the hot tub as any MTV personality would: "How do you go in a Jacuzzi with a thong and a bra? Wear a thong bikini, that's a little bit classier, if you're going to wear anything at all." Translation: If you're going to be a slut, do it the proper way. It's sound advice for America's youth, isn't it? Their words and actions may make you cringe, but it makes for awful, yet fantastic, television.

These people have a love-hate relationship with their own kind, and that sentiment

is felt by the audience. Snooki says she enjoys being a guidette and hooking up with guidos, but feels sadness when her housemates criticize her for acting like a stereotypical guidette (pot, meet kettle).

Of course, not every Italian-American or Jersey resident acts like a guido or guidette (in fact, only two cast members are Jersey natives). But "Jersey Shore" probably promotes such stereotypes, which is likely why Domino's Pizza revoked their sponsorship and the Italian-American organization UNICO is calling for a boycott of the show.

Yet, I can't feel guilty about watching it; not only is it a stomach-churning train wreck, it's completely irresistible. If you ever find yourself snowed in one day during winter break, do yourself a favor — start pumping your fists in the air and watch this show.

You'll probably hate yourself for watching, but the immense amusement "Jersey Shore" brings is unlike any other reality show, because it shows a grim reality of people living this life. Just don't judge every Italian-American or New Jersey resident based on this group of young peoples' actions, because, to quote Angelina's favorite phrase, they're "classier than that."

Respond to Marisha at
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Brazilian police kill more than 11,000 criminals

By Bradley Brooks
The Associated Press

RIO DE JANEIRO — Police in Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo have killed more than 11,000 people in the past six years, many execution-style, according to a report released yesterday by Human Rights Watch.

Few of the officers have been charged in the extra judicial killings, which are often labeled in police reports as the deaths of suspects who resisted arrest, the report said.

The 122-page declaration echoes a 2008 United Nations' finding that police throughout Brazil were responsible for a "significant portion" of 48,000 slayings the year before.

"Extra judicial killing of criminal suspects is not the answer to violent crime," said Jose Miguel Vivanco, Americas director at Human Rights Watch. "The residents of Rio and Sao Paulo need more effective policing, not more violence from the police."

Isabel Figueiredo, Brazil's coordinator-general of human rights and public safety, acknowledged that police violence is a widespread problem and "it concerns the federal government a great deal."

Figueiredo said authorities have launched a series of initiatives to confront the problem, including training police to respect human rights and the appropriate use of force, in addition to the purchase of less-lethal weapons for state police forces.

Security forces "have begun to understand that instead of solving the problem, confronting

criminals with weapons leads to casualties on both sides," she said.

Officials from the Rio and Sao Paulo police departments did not comment.

But Rio state Public Safety Director Jose Beltrame, in charge of the city's armed security forces, previously took issue with the 2008 U.N. report, saying critics don't recognize that his officers must constantly confront drug gangs who rule over slums and are armed with military rifles, grenades and anti-aircraft weapons.

"We have to deal with something few others face: armed combat with drug traffickers who are equipped with heavy weapons coming from abroad," Beltrame said in an October interview with The Associated Press. "That is a unique attribute our police deal with."

He spoke after Rio gangs had unleashed a wave of violence in which they downed a police helicopter, killing three of the six officers aboard — just a mile (two kilometers) from the Maracana stadium, where the 2016 Olympics' opening and closing ceremonies and the 2014 World Cup final will be held.

The Human Rights Watch report examined 51 cases in Rio and Sao Paulo in which it seemed that police had killed an alleged criminal, but then reported the victim died while resisting arrest.

In 33 cases, forensic evidence "was at odds with the official version of what took place" — including 17 cases in which autopsies indicated police shot the person at point-blank range,

"...it concerns the federal government a great deal."

Isabel Figueiredo | coordinator-general

the report said, adding that "the 51 cases do not represent the totality of potential extra judicial killings, but are indicative of a much broader problem."

Using government statistics, the report noted that police have killed more than 11,000 people in Sao Paulo and Rio since 2003. In Rio, the killings reached a high of 1,330 in 2007.

The report also states that Rio police killed one of every 23 people arrested, and Sao Paulo police one of every 348 in 2008. In comparison, police in the U.S. killed one of every 37,000 people arrested that year.

Editor's note: Associated Press Writer Marco Sibaja in Brasilia, Brazil, contributed to this report.

WORLD BRIEFS

BY NEWS WIRE SOURCES

Honduras' top anti-drug official killed

TEGUCIGALPA, Honduras (AP) — Gunmen on motorcycles ambushed and killed Honduras' top anti-drug official in the capital Tuesday, just two months before he planned to retire and move to Canada.

Former army Gen. Julian Aristides Gonzalez, director of the Office for Combating Drug Trafficking, was driving alone after dropping his daughter at school when assailants opened fire and then fled, national police spokesman Orlin Cerrato said.

No arrests have been made, and investigators were trying to determine a motive. Last year, Gonzalez said he had received death threats from drug traffickers.

"We regret the death of this man who offered his life for the welfare of Honduras," Cerrato said. "By the decency of his actions, he unleashed a real battle against the main vice that besets humanity."

Blasts hit Baghdad, kill at least 127

BAGHDAD — A series of coordinated attacks struck Baghdad Tuesday, including two suicide car bombers and another vehicle that blew up near government sites. At least 127 were killed and hundreds wounded in the worst wave of violence in the capital in more than a month, authorities said.

A total of five attacks, which also included a suicide car bomb on a police patrol, showed the ability of insurgents to strike high-profile targets in the heart of Baghdad and marked the third time since August that government buildings were targeted with multiple blasts that killed more than 100 people.

The bombings reinforced concerns about shortcomings in Iraqi security as U.S. forces plan their withdrawal, and parliament held an emergency session with many lawmakers demanding answers for apparent security lapses.

— Brian Murphy, The Associated Press

Mexican army accused of abuse

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Amnesty International said Mexican soldiers have carried out torture and forced disappearances while fighting drug cartels.

The group says one case involves 25 Tijuana police officers detained on corruption allegations. The officers say troops put their feet in water and applied electric shocks to their bodies, including their genitals.

The Interior Department said it will analyze the report released by the human rights watchdog group on Tuesday. It also details four other cases of abuse against 10 people in the northern border states of Chihuahua, Tamaulipas and Baja California, where Tijuana is located.

More than 45,000 troops have been deployed to drug hot spots since President Felipe Calderon took office in 2006.

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SIDELINES



SWIMMING Richardson named MAC swimmer of the week

BG senior captain Meg Richardson was named swimmer of the week, the third BG athlete in any sport to receive a MAC honor this week.

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OUR CALL

Today in Sports History

1961—Wilt Chamberlain scores 78 points, the second highest single game total of his career.
1956—The 16th Olympic Games close in Melbourne, Australia.

The List

While Clawson's first memory of traveling to Idaho may be a bad one, his memories of road games this season have been more pleasant. Today, we take a look at BG's top five road games this season:

1. Buffalo: In a nationally televised contest, BG rallied for the win as Freddie Barnes caught a game-winning touchdown pass with 30 seconds remaining.

2. Kent State: Another comeback win for the Falcons, this time it was Tyler Sheehan with the game-winning touchdown run with 6 seconds on the clock.

3. Ball State: In one of BG's best first halves of football this season, they took the early lead and never looked back in a 31-17 win.

4. Miami: BG's seniors had never beaten Miami before they went down to Oxford and secured a 35-14 victory this season.

5. Missouri: While BG lost the contest 27-20, they proved they could play with the best as they lead the No. 25 team in the nation at half time.

FALCONS VS. VANDALS



November 13, 1993

Moscow, Idaho

As a running backs coach at Lehigh, Dave Clawson lost to the University of Idaho 77-14.

December 30, 2009

Boise, Idaho

Now head coach at BG, Clawson will return to Idaho for the Roady's Humanitarian Bowl against the Vandals.



"This is not a good memory..."

BG coach hopes trip to Idaho isn't like his first in 1993

By Andrew Harner
Sports Editor

Football coach Dave Clawson is hoping this season's trip to face the University of Idaho goes a lot better than his last.

As running backs coach at Lehigh in 1993, Clawson said his only experience ever in Idaho was dismal at best.

"This is not a good memory," Clawson said. "Idaho at the time ... they were loaded. They were one of the best teams in the country. They somehow got on our schedule."

"We flew to Idaho [and] the buses got stuck in a snowstorm going up a mountain, so we just sat there for two hours. And that was the good part of the trip because once the game started, they beat us up pretty good."

Then-Idaho quarterback Doug Nussmeier earned the Walter Payton Award as the Division I-AA Player of the Year while leading his team to an 11-3 record and an appearance in the national playoff semifinals that season.

In the Nov. 13 game against Lehigh, the Vandals won 77-14, easily their widest margin of victory for the season.

"After the game, they asked Nussmeier, 'When did you feel that this game was in hand and you were in good shape?'" Clawson said. "And he goes, 'At the coin flip.'"

"He goes 'I looked at their captains, I looked at their sidelines and I told the boys, guys we're OK.' And he was accurate because it was not much of a game."

Clawson and the team should have a better matchup in this season's Roady's Humanitarian Bowl on Dec. 30

against the Vandal defense, which allows more than 35 points per game.

Boise Falcons

Since the Humanitarian Bowl is played in Bronco Stadium, home to Idaho rival Boise State, Clawson said there may be a strong contingent of 'Falcon fans' even though the game is 2,000 miles from home.

"If any Boise fans want to emphasize the orange in their colors for our game, we'd appreciate it," Clawson said. "It's hard to ever root for your rival. As much as they want to see the [Western Athletic Conference] do well, when it's a bitter rival like that, I'm sure there's going to be a lot of Bronco fans that somehow could never get themselves to root for the Vandals."

See **BOWL** | Page 7

Women's hoops continues road trip, heads to Detroit

By Andrew Harner
Sports Editor

After one of the biggest regular season wins for the women's basketball team in recent memory last Friday, coach Curt Miller said his team has a new found confidence.

The Falcons (5-2) upset No. 16 Vanderbilt 66-60 on the road, and Miller said the national recognition gave his team a boost going into tonight's game against Detroit-Mercy.

"Certainly a big national road win ... gave us a little shot in the arm," Miller said. "The early, tough road tests give us some confidence that we can get over the hump."

"Certainly a big national road win ... gave us a little shot in the arm. The early, tough road tests give us some confidence that we can get over the hump."

Curt Miller | Coach

But as junior guard Tracy Pontius said, the team has to be careful not to overlook the Titans after the big win.

"It's given us a little boost of confidence, but coach Miller always tells us not to get too high off wins and too low of losses," Pontius said.

And they better not get too high because Miller said Detroit-

Mercy is an "underrated" team that has a "misleading" record. The 1-5 Titans have played Michigan State, Cincinnati and Oakland among others this season.

They are led by senior guard Bridgid Mulroy, who averages

See **HOOPS** | Page 7



LEADER: Point Guard Tracy Pontius runs the floor against Ohio State earlier this season.

ENOCH WU | THE BG NEWS

AIRING IT OUT

In the second of a seven-part series, the BG News will break down the upcoming Humanitarian Bowl match up between BG and Idaho. Today, we are looking at both team's quarterbacks (BG's Tyler Sheehan and Idaho's Nathan Enderle) as both BG and Idaho rely heavily on their passing attacks. Each team averages close to 300 yards per game.



Tyler Sheehan
Class: Senior
Height: 6-3
Weight: 223
Season Stats:
 12 Games Played
 340 Completions
 3,664 Passing Yards
 23 Touchdowns
 6 Interceptions
 4 Rushing Touchdowns



Nathan Enderle
Class: Junior
Height: 6-5
Weight: 227
Season Stats:
 10 Games Played
 177 Completions
 2,666 Passing Yards
 18 Touchdowns
 9 Interceptions
 Missed 2 games due to injury.

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BOWL

From Page 6

Senior quarterback Tyler Sheehan also said the in-state rivalry could help the Falcons earn some fans.

"When I found out we were playing Idaho, I kind of knew that Boise and Idaho were rivals, so I was hoping that would be in our favor," Sheehan said. "We'll see how it plays out."

Records

Sheehan is 339 yards away from setting a new school record for passing yards in a season. Omar Jacobs (2003-05) is the current record holder with 4,002 yards.

Sheehan has thrown for at least 339 yards six times this season.

In addition, senior Freddie Barnes is five receptions away from setting a new NCAA record for receptions

in a season. Houston's Manny Hazard set the record of 142 in 1989.

"It will be something special," Sheehan said. "With this opportunity, hopefully we're going to take advantage of it."

The only game in which Barnes did not record five receptions was when he caught four balls against Boise State, but he would not guarantee he would catch five passes against Idaho.

"I don't do the guaranteeing thing just because anything can happen in warm-ups," Barnes said. "Hopefully, we come in with a similar game plan so I can make some plays for the team."

Connection

Idaho coach Robb Akey was a player at Weber State while BG offensive line coach John McDonnell was an assistant there from 1984-1987.

HOOPS

From Page 6

17.2 points per game by making 36-of-72 shots, including 21-of-35 (60 percent) on 3-pointers.

Their leading rebounder is sophomore forward Yar Shayok, who is averaging a double-double per game with 14 points and 10.5 rebounds.

"It's a trap game," Miller said. "It was a close game for all 30 minutes last year and then we broke it wide open. We're certainly not overlooking them or taking them lightly."

BG won in a rout last season, downing the Detroit-Mercy 72-42 for the fourth straight time. The last time the Titans defeated BG was on Nov. 20, 2001, in what was Miller's first loss as a collegiate head coach.

The teams will face-off tonight at 7 at Calihan Hall.

Breske's back

Miller said the team is fortunate that senior center Tara Breske only missed two games with a knee injury.

Thought to have been a "significant" injury when she suffered it against Oakland, Miller said Breske's knee responded well to rehab.

"It was a huge shot in the arm getting Tara Breske back," Miller said. "She's not 100 percent. We're going to still ease her back into things. The great news is it wasn't an ACL injury, and obviously, we have her back."

Breske played 16 minutes against Vanderbilt but will not start tonight.

Team health

Sophomore Maribeth Giese is out "until further notice" due to mono.

Giese did not dress for BG's last home game, a 77-72 win against St. Francis on Dec. 1, and was not on the practice floor yesterday.

THE BG NEWS SUDOKU

1	5					6	7
				5	7		
8	4		2	1			
	6		4		2		
	9		5	7	1		
				8			5
5							3
9		4	7			5	6
6					5	7	8

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5	7	9	6	8	9	2	1	4
2	4	9	1	7	5	8	6	3
1	6	8	2	9	4	5	9	7
6	9	5	9	1	2	7	4	8
8	1	4	7	5	6	9	3	2
7	6	2	8	4	3	6	5	1



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Freshman Jessie Tamerlano was also believed to have had mono at the beginning of the month, but Miller said that was not the case. Tamerlano is practicing with the team.

Love the state

The Falcons have won 12 of their past 13 games in Michigan. The only loss was at Michigan

State in the 2008 WNIT.

Milestone

With a victory, Miller will win his 185th career game with the Falcons.

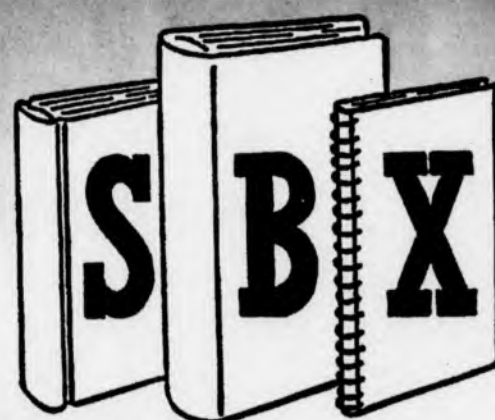
Former BG coach Fran Voll is third among Mid-American Conference coaches in total victories with 189, and Miller will pass him at some point this season.

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McChrystal backs Obama's plan to a skeptical congress

By Anne Flaherty and Anne Gearan
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Questioned by skeptical lawmakers, the U.S. general running the war in Afghanistan said yesterday he

did not get as many troops as he wanted and must work under a schedule he did not recommend, but he insisted the Obama

administration's revamped strategy is the best way to win. Comments by Afghanistan's president and the U.S. defense secretary suggested a long, slow effort.

As Gen. Stanley McChrystal defended President Barack Obama's new surge-and-exit strategy in Washington, the U.S. challenge was underscored in

Kabul. Afghanistan President Hamid Karzai said — with Defense Secretary Robert Gates standing at his side — that it probably will be five years before Afghan forces can take the lead in the fight against Taliban insurgents. And Karzai predicted it would be at least 15 years before his government could pay for its own forces.

On Capitol Hill, Gen. McChrystal declared under questioning by congressional committees, "I'm comfortable with the entire plan." But in lengthy sessions before Senate and House panels, the four-star general cautioned against expectations of immediate results and said the strategy must show progress within 18 months, Obama's deadline for beginning to bring U.S. troops home.

"The sober fact is that there are no silver bullets," McChrystal said. "Ultimate success will be the cumulative effect of sustained pressure."

Karzai's comments, following a meeting with Gates, added more uncertainty to the planned exit of American troops. And they lowered expectations of any quick progress by shrunken Afghan security forces, which have long

been expected to be equal partners with U.S. forces and troops from 42 other countries stationed in Afghanistan.

In announcing last week his decision to order 30,000 more U.S. troops to Afghanistan, Obama said they would begin coming home in July 2011.

But Gates, in remarks to reporters in Kabul, reiterated that the administration expects the U.S. withdrawal to be "a several-year process — whether it's three years or two years or four years remains to be seen."

Karzai's repetition Tuesday of his earlier warnings of a five-year buildup of the Afghan army and police make it likely that the American pullout could be a slow-motion drawdown that could extend through 2014. And he said his country will need international help to build homegrown security forces well beyond that date.

Administration officials have said the length and speed of the withdrawal will depend on the results of the military campaign against the Taliban, as well as

See **AFGHAN** | Page 9

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Ex-FBI director to examine Fort Hood

By Devlin Barrett
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Ex-FBI director William Webster will conduct an independent review of the bureau's handling of information gathered about the Fort Hood shooting suspect before the deadly rampage, officials said yesterday.

FBI Director Robert Mueller has asked Webster to take a look at how the bureau handled information about Maj. Nidal Hasan in the months before the shooting at the Texas military base that killed 13 people.

Mueller had already ordered an internal review of the matter, and that review led to a secret report to the White House in late November. The new assignment for Webster takes the inter-

nal review a step further, and likely means a more prolonged, in-depth inquiry. Webster is a former judge who also served as CIA director.

In a statement, Mueller called Webster "uniquely qualified" for the job because he "has led independent reviews of various FBI systems and broader policies and provided valuable recommendations. In this case, Judge Webster will have complete access and whatever resources necessary to complete the task."

Webster now works for a private law firm, and his office referred all questions Tuesday to the FBI.

The U.S. military is also reviewing its handling of information about Hasan before the shooting spree, and has also

sent a report to the White House on the matter. In the FBI's case, members of two anti-terrorism task forces saw e-mails between the Army psychiatrist and a radical imam overseas beginning in December 2008.

Those task forces reviewed the communications and decided they were in keeping with Hasan's research at the time. As a result, no formal investigation of Hasan was opened — a move that has been criticized by some in Congress.

Webster's inquiry is expected to take about as much time as the Defense Department's probe — with an early stage review to be concluded by the beginning of next year, and a more detailed review in about six months.

facilitators to believe the U.S. will be weakening. He added that he believed this could be overcome.

McChrystal said he had not recommended the 18-month deadline for beginning a pull-out and had preferred that more fresh forces be sent in.

Despite reports that McChrystal and Eikenberry have frayed relations and were at odds over the ambassador's opposition to a major troop surge, the two men took pains to say they are friends.

Both men fielded pointed questions about the viability of the Obama strategy, the reliability of the Afghan government and the wisdom of announcing the July 2011 withdrawal start.

McChrystal, who took over the top command job in Kabul in June, said the nature of the Taliban and the brutal way it ruled before being overthrown in late 2001 are among reasons he thinks the insurgency can be defeated.

"They were not credible in power, and they are not credible now," McChrystal said.

Eikenberry, who previously had privately expressed doubts about sending a large num-

ber of additional U.S. troops to Afghanistan, said he was now "100 percent" behind the strategy, which includes emphasis on a bigger role for U.S. civilian agencies to assist in strengthening the Afghan government and its economy.

John McCain, the senior Republican on the Senate Armed Services Committee, praised the decision to send more troops but said that setting a firm date for beginning to send them home was a mistake.

"We have announced a date divorced from conditions on the ground," McCain said.

Eikenberry, himself a former U.S. commander in Kabul, said the course outlined last week by Obama "offers the best path to stabilize Afghanistan and to ensure al-Qaida and other terrorist groups cannot regain a foothold to plan new attacks against our country or our allies."

McChrystal spoke not of defeating the Taliban but of attempting to "disrupt and degrade" its fighting capacity. "Rolling back the Taliban," he said, "is a prerequisite to the ultimate defeat of al-Qaida."

The House panel's highest-

ranking Republican, Howard "Buck" McKeon of California, told McChrystal he was waiting to hear how "the president is not under-resourcing his own strategy," since the general had sketched ways that as many as 80,000 additional U.S. forces could have helped turn the tide.

McChrystal said he did not think he would need to ask for any more troops in a year's time but would not hesitate to recommend more if circumstances changed.

He also told McKeon he did not recommend the July 2011 exit plan but supports it.

"By the summer of 2011, it will be clear to the Afghan people that the insurgency will not win, giving them the chance to side with their government," McChrystal said. "From that point forward, while we begin to reduce U.S. combat force, levels, we will remain partnered with the Afghan security forces in a supporting role to consolidate and solidify their gains."

"Afghans do not regard us as occupiers," he said. "They do not wish for us to remain forever, yet they see our support as a necessary bridge to future security and stability."

AFGHAN

From Page 8

the success of efforts to build up Afghan forces and strengthen the Kabul government.

LAST MINUTE

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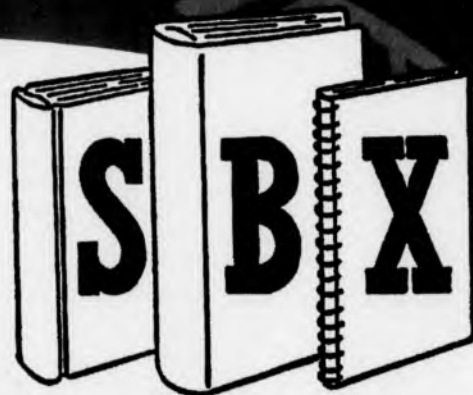
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OHIO BRIEFS

BG NEWS WIRE SOURCES

Ohio House approves autism coverage

COLUMBUS (AP) — The Ohio House has approved bills that would require health insurance companies to cover the treatment of autism and diabetes.

The Democratic-controlled House voted 57-39 for the autism bill, which now heads to the Republican-controlled Senate. Diabetes coverage was approved by a vote of 58-38.

The House included the autism coverage requirement in its version of the two-year budget passed earlier this year. But the Senate took the measure out.

Many Republicans are concerned that requiring insurance companies to cover autism and diabetes will increase the price of insurance overall, hurting small businesses and certain individuals.

About one in every 150 children is diagnosed with autism, a developmental disability that impairs a person's ability to communicate and interact with others.

Caterpillar Logistics to build new center

CLAYTON, Ohio (AP) — Caterpillar Logistics Services plans to open a new parts distribution center in southwest Ohio.

Caterpillar Logistics is a subsidiary of mining and construction equipment manufacturer Caterpillar Inc. of Peoria, Ill.

Caterpillar spokeswoman Bridget Young said Tuesday that the new center in Clayton is expected to employ 500 to 600 people when fully staffed, depending on market conditions.

The center will span more than 1 million square feet. Cost is estimated at more than \$50 million. Construction is expected to begin in early 2010 and be completed in 2011.

Caterpillar said the center near Dayton eventually will replace the company's Indianapolis Regional Distribution facility and assume some work currently performed at Caterpillar's parts distribution center in Morton, Ill.

Officials say 45 horses died in fire

LEBANON, Ohio (AP) —

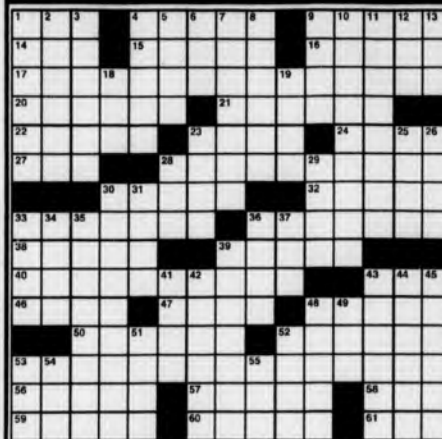
Authorities now said two miniature horses were also in a raceway barn that was consumed by flames, bringing to 45 the number of horses killed along with two men.

The blaze early Saturday at Lebanon Raceway is still under investigation. Authorities have ruled out arson, but they said Tuesday it could be weeks before they conclude their probe into the cause.

The State Fire Marshal's office is working with Lebanon fire and police and the Warren County Coroner.

Officials have not released the names of the men who died. Horse owners and fellow workers at the harness racing track have said veteran groomers Ronnie Williams and James Edwards were killed.

The Daily Crossword Fix



- 1 Lofty principles
2 Alley: old music-publishing district
3 Old White House middle name
4 Suspicious
5 Poker payment
6 Sac fly stat
7 Approve tacitly
8 Crowd scene actors
9 Copycat
10 Furry North Pacific swimmers
11 Hanna-Barbera output
12 Escort's offer
13 Thickness
18 "Gross!"
19 Jekyll's alter ego
23 Actuary's calculation
25 Cut or scrape, in tot-speak
26 Lego relative
28 Tic: mint
29 Eric the Red's son
30 Loneliness syndrome when kids leave home
31 Repetitive learning method
33 Captain's position
34 "Carmen" highlight
35 Like weightlifters
36 Animal rights activists' concerns
37 Draft choice
39 Five-star leader
41 Nifty
42 Low-cost lodging
43 Coastal irregularities, and word anagrammed in this puzzle's four longest answers
44 Stinker
45 Mortar and
48 Gave a PG, say
49 Shade tree
51 Tolkien tree people
52 Six-time Emmy winner Tyne
53 Teaching inst.
54 Chit
55 Bigheadedness

ACROSS

- 1 "___ be an honor"
4 Absurd sham
9 Music performance rights org.
14 Fizzle out
15 Where work may pile up
16 Bit of wisdom
17 Respond to Uncle Sam's poster request
20 Navajo relative
21 Wood decay
22 Tall and long-limbed
23 Hope/Crosby film title word
24 Captured
27 ___Cat: winter vehicle
28 Movieland
30 Eliminate entirely
32 ___, meenie...
33 Outdoor nap site
36 Women, in old-fashioned parlance
38 Blow one's top

- 39 Chasms
40 "Pay attention!"
43 Pesky little tyke
46 Retailing pioneer R.H. ___
47 Eternities
48 Zellweger of "Chicago"
50 Anxiety
52 Texas metropolis
53 Passive-aggressive tactic
56 Land along the ocean
57 Two under par, on a hole
58 Up to, in classified ads
59 Aches
60 Father of Beau and Jeff
61 Go out with

ANSWERS



Calif. Kroger reports \$875M third-quarter loss on charges

By Dan Sewell
The Associated Press

CINCINNATI — The Kroger Co. is hurting from California's ailing economy and the overall bite of a dollar-by-dollar battle under way nationwide for recession-pinched households' grocery spending.

The nation's largest traditional grocery chain reported yesterday an \$875 million third-quarter loss, largely because of a \$1.05 billion charge to write down the value of its Ralphs division in California, which it acquired a decade ago. Even without that, its profit fell more than 25 percent.

Kroger also cut its sales and profit forecasts for the full year. Kroger shares plunged 12 percent, or \$2.72, to close at \$20.13. They reached \$27.59 last December before falling to \$19.39 in March.

More customers are coming into its stores, Kroger said, but they're spending less and focusing on bargains as price-cutting sharpens at Wal-Mart Stores Inc., club stores like Costco Wholesale Corp., and regional competitors like Meijer Inc., based in Grand Rapids, Mich., and Giant Eagle Inc. of Pittsburgh. Wal-Mart is the nation's largest grocery seller overall.

Chairman and CEO David Dillon said price competi-

"Retailers compete aggressively for every dollar."

David Dillon | Kroger CEO

tion remains wider and more intense than he can remember it ever being — and tougher than expected.

"Pricing and promotional activity increased to include more of our competitors, expanding to more of the markets we serve," Dillon said. "Retailers compete aggressively for every dollar."

The company said the 263-store Ralphs group has been battered by California's record 12.5 percent unemployment rate and housing decline. Dillon said the company remains optimistic about Ralphs but said California's overall grocery market appears to be shrinking.

Nationwide, Dillon said, shoppers are trading down and cutting back because they simply don't have the money they used to. With unprecedented numbers of Americans using food stamps, club stores have stepped up their competition with supermarkets for that business.

Sales of Kroger's store-brand products, usually cheaper than national brands, continued strong. And its stores are

discounting popular branded items, including Kellogg Co. cereals at half off and Barilla brand pasta at 10 for \$10.

Kroger reported a loss of \$1.35 a share, compared with profit of \$237.7 million, or 36 cents a share, a year ago. Sales rose less than 1 percent to \$17.7 billion.

Without the charge, profit would have been \$176.7 million, or 27 cents. Analysts expected 36 cents a share on \$17.7 billion.

The company said sales at stores open at least 15 months, a key retail gauge, rose only 1.3 percent, excluding fuel sales. Kroger cuts its full-year sales forecast for the measure to 2-2.5 percent, without fuel, from 3-4 percent.

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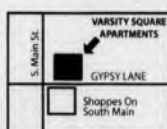
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